A82 INCOMING TELEGRAM EXCISE

PAGE 01 LIMA 05168 182247Z
ACTION INM-06

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 C4AE-00 EB-08 ARA-16
SSO-00 INRE-00 AGRE-00 DEAE-00 /047 W
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O 182211Z MAY 82
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2592

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMA 5168

E O 12065 NA
TAGS: SNAR, PE
SUBJ: COCA CONTROL IN PERU

REF: A) LIMA 4946; B) STATE 76639, C) LIMA 2752
D) STATE 133583

1. (LOU ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SINCE THE FY 1982 COCA CONTROL PROJECT AGREEMENT WAS PRESENTED TO THE GOP (OFECOD DIRECTOR THORBERRY), THE FIRST WK OF MAY WE HAVE NOT BEEN ADVISED OF ANY GOP OBJECTIONS TO THE ERADICATION BENCHMARKS. DURING PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH GOP OFFICIALS, IT WAS MADE CLEAR THAT BENCHMARKS WOULD BE TIED TO U.S. NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE. WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE OBJECTIONS IN PRINCIPLE; HOWEVER, THERE MAY BE SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT THE SIZE OF THE YEARLY QUOTAS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR PROMPT APPROVAL OF THE FY 82 AGREEMENT.

3. ON APRIL 22, PRESIDENT BELAUNDE SIGNED A DECREE CREATING AN EXECUTIVE ORGANIZATION FOR CONTROL AND REDUCTION OF COCA CULTIVATION IN THE UPPER HUALLAGA VALLEY (UHV). ITS CREATION IS THE FIRST STEP INTHE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FY 1981 PROW/AG. AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS EXPECTED TO BE APPOINTED BY THE END OF THE MONTH.

4. THE VOLUNTARY ERADICATION PROGRAM HAS NOT YET BEGUN AND IS NOT EXPECTED TO START UNTIL THE EXECUTIVE ORGANIZATION HAS OPENED AN OFFICE IN THE UHV. IT IS EXPECTED THE PROGRAM WILL BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER FOLLOWED BY A MANDATORY ERADICATION PHASE IN DECEMBER.

5. REGARDING ERADICATION, IT IS PLANNED THAT ABANDONMENT, DIGGING UP THE PLANTS, INTRODUCTION OF KUDZU AND HERBICIDES WILL ALL BE USED. MUCH WILL DEPEND UPON THE SIZE AND LOCATION OF THE FIELDS, AS WELL AS THEIR ULTIMATE AGRICULTURAL USE.

6. THE GOP CONTINUES TO BE PRESSURED BY THE COCA GROWERS FOR EITHER EXTENDED TIME TABLES FOR ERADICATION OR SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED DIRECT BENEFITS TO THE AFFECTED GROWERS. JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO, NEAR TARAPOTO (IN THE CENTRAL HUALLAGA SEVERAL CAMPESINOS WERE KILLED IN CLASHES WITHE GC DURING AN ATTEMPTED [redacted]ERAL STRIKE IN PROTEST OF REDUCED GOP PRICE SUPPORT FOR CORN. GIVEN PRESENT DOMESTIC PROBLEMS, THE GOP IS CONCERNED ABOUT AN OPEN REVOLT BY COCA GROWERS AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO MOVE SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.

7. WE, TOO, ARE FRUSTRATED BY THE SLOWNESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FY 1981 AGREEMENT [redacted]

8. WE WILL CONTINE, HOWEVER, TO PURSUE ALL AVENUES FOR IMPROVING GOP PERFORMANCE. IN THIS REGARD, WE ARE PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGE DBY RECENT TALKS WITH THE FISCAL DE LA NACION (ATTORNEY GENERAL) ORTIZ DE ZEVALLOS AND HIS CONVICTION THAT ERADICATION IS THE ONLY SOLUTION. ORTIZ DE ZEVALLOS HAS SHOWN GREAT INTEREST IN GAINING A MAJOR VOICE IN, IF NOT CONTROL OF, GOP COCA CONTROL EFFORTS--A MOVE WE WELCOME AND SUPPORT.

9. ON THE ENFORCEMENT SIDE, WE CONTINUE TO BE IMPRESSED WITH THE PROGRESS OF THE GUARDIA CIVIL RURAL MOBILE PATROL UNIT (UMOPAR) IN THE UHV. SINCE ITS CREATION IN MARCH 1981, IT HAS GROWN FROM 63 TO 115 MEN. PRESENT CONSTRUCTION WILL ALLOW UMOPAR TO DOUBLE IN SIZE BY AUGUST AND REACH ITS AUTHORIZED STRENGTH OF 315 BY DECEMBER. SEIZURES TO DATE (MARCH 81-APRIL 82) INCLUDE 814 KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE PASTE AND 22,000 KILOGRAMS OF LEAVES, AND 120 JUNGLE LABORATORIES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED. ADDITIONALLY, 250 HECTARES (600 ACRES) OF COCA HAVE BEEN ABANDONED IN/OR AROUND TINGO MARIA, WHICH CAN BE ATRIBUTED TO THE PRESENCE OF UMOPAR. WITH THE RECENT ARRIVAL OF VEHICLES, RADIO AND FIELD EQUIPMENT, UMOPAR WILL BE ABLE TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT FIELD POSTS, GREATLY EXPANDING ITS CONTROL OF THE UHV. THE UNIT IS THE PRIDE OF THE GUARDIA CIVIL AND IS ONE OF THE FEW UNITS RESPONSIBLE ONLY TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE GUARDIA CIVIL.
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